period for which such data are available, is given below:

(Figures in US $ million)

	Exports	Imports
1993-94	22238	23306
1994-95(P)	26223	28251
1995-96(P) (April-June)	7168	7992

(P) Provisional figures.

Expert Committee on Sugar Mills

1427. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up an Expert Committee to explore the possibilities of bringing extensive improvements in the existing techniques of sugar mills located in various States particularly in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the terms of reference of this committee;

(d) whether there is an ample scope for increasing the sugar production by bringing extensive improvement in their existing techniques; and

(e) whether sugar industries set up in Tamil Nadu particularly those in western Tamil Nadu are more under developed in comparison to the sugar industries located in other States?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The conversion cost is a primary indicator of the State of development of the sugar industry in any particular area. The average conversion cost (including escalation), computed for the purpose of levy price determination for the current season, comes to Rs. 209.17 per quintal for Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry levy prices zone, as compared to all India average of Rs. 237.81 per quintal.

Modification of sampling procedure of coal by BIS

1428. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal Controller or the Coal Companies have requested the Bureau of Indian Standards to modify the sampling procedure as per IS-436 to make it realistic and practicable;

(b) if so, when the approach has been made and what action is being taken by the Bureau to modify/amend the IS; and

(c) whether Bureau of Indian Standards is aware of any simplified system of sampling of coal circulated by Coal Controller, which has been adopted by the Coal Companies for Joint sampling arrangements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (c) As per information furnished by Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), Coal Controller had made a request to the BIS in June 1992 for simplification/modification of sampling of coal as covered in IS:436-1964. A number of experiments on simplification modification of the sampling method were carried out by Dentral Fuel Research Institute (CFRI), Chanbad in association with Coal Controller's Office. The report of these experiments was discussed in the meeting of Solid Mineral Fuels Sectional Committee at BIS, New Delhi and it was decided to circulate a draft revised standard for public comments.

देश में मछली प्रसंस्करण उद्योग

1429. **श्री अजीत जोगी:** क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) सरकारी और गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्र के अंतर्गत झींगा मछली प्रसंस्करण उद्योगों की संख्या कितनी है;